(1948) Department.

Press SERIES.

G.O. No. 3025 P.H.

Dated 3.9.1948.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Public Health Administration - 1947 - Report - Reviewed.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Education & Public Health Department.
G.O.No.3025,Public Health,dated 3-9-1948.

Public Health Administration - 1947 - Report - Reviewed.

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DYSENTY AND DIARRHAEA.--The number of deaths from this grou of causes also increased from 62;621 in 1946 to 75,719 in 194

OTHER CAUSES OF DEATH.--584,786 deaths were registered under other causes during the year 1947, representing 56 per cen of the total deaths in the year.

RESEARCH.--The biological method of control of the Guinea-worm disease was in progress in the districts of Anantapur, West Godavari, Kurnool and Bellary. Special training in Guinea worm control was arranged at Kurnool, Karur and Guntakal. Studies of different species of small indigenous fresh-water fish to test their cyclopoecidal quality were also carried out.

MALARIA CONTROL. -The Bureau of Malariology consisting of One Central Unit and four Regional Malaria Organizations continued to function during the year. All the existing anti-malaria schemes continued to function and showed progress. Quinine and quinine substitutes were distributed as usual by the Health staff in all endemic areas. Paludrine, the new anti-malarial drug, was tried in a large number of villages and was found to be very effective, both as a prophylactic and asx a curative. A trial scheme for the free supply of anti-mosquito repellent to non-Gazetted Government officers and their families in malarious areas was sanctioned during the year. Large-scale D.D.T. spraying of houses was undertaken in the various anti-malarial schemes. In the Wynaad Colonization Scheme, D.D.T. spraying was adopted in the place of stone-pitching and sluicing, thereby reducing the cost considerably. Control work with D.D.T. as larvicide was found to be effective and economical.

Short courses on malaria were given at Pattukottai. Coimbatre Bellary, Krishnadevipeta and Kalpatta.

FILARIASIS.--Surveys were conducted in Mangalore Municipality, Kasargod and Trivellore panchayats and in the Poonamalle Health Unit and suitable control measures were suggested to the respective local authorities.

FAIRS AND FESTIVALS. Elaborate sanitary arrangements were, as usual, made during the year in connexion with all the fairs and festivals which passed off without any outbreak of epidemics.

WATER-SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE.--A special committee was appointed to consider ways and means to expedite the investigation and ecution of water-supply and drainage schemes in municipal and non-municipal areas and the report submitted by the committee is under the consideration of the Government.

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.--As in previous years, health education and propaganda formed part of the routine work of the Health staff. Lectures, talks, cinema shows and exhibitions were arranged. Weekly broadcasts on public health conditions in the Province were also made. During the year, five copies of sound films on health subjects were purchased. Seven propaganda vans belonging to the field publicity organization were taken over for health, education and publicity

POONAMALLEE HEALTH UNIT.--The re-organised Health Unit, Poonamallee, continued to function during the year and progre was made in the provision of water-supply, conservancy, anti-mosquito and maternity and child-welfare services.

MATERNITY AND CHILD-WELFARE.--Twenty-two new maternity and child-welfare centres were opened during the year. The establishment of creches for the use of children of the working class mothers during day-time received special impetus during the year. A total grant of Rs.1,69,214 was paid by Government to local bodies for Maternity and Child-Welfare work during the 1946-47 as against Rs.1,50,707 during 1945-46.

FOOD ADULTERATION.--The Prevention of Adulteration Act was in force in 236 local areas. Further extension of the Act was not possible for want of facilities in the laboratory of the Government Analyst. The percentage of adulterated samples in 1947 was 46.7 per cent as against 46 per cent in the previous year

NUTRITION.--The Nutrition Bureau with a Nutrition Officer at Madras and two Regional Units at Tiruchirappalli and Anantapur was continued during the year. Diet surveys in nearly 1,700 families were carried out and five nutrition exhibitions were organized during the year. The activities of the Nutrition Laboratory included studies in efficient methods of storage of foodgrains and pulses and examination of samples of foodstuffs to test their wholesomeness for human consumption. Free-feeding of school children was undertaken by the Corporation of Madras in the City schools and by the Labour Department in the Labour schools in the mufassal.

VACCINATION.--The total number of vaccinations done during the year was 4,881,375 as against 8,584,105 in 1946. which show a marked decrease in the number of vaccinations. The decrease is stated to be due mainly to a fall in the number of re-vaccinations done, and other factors, such as diversion of vaccination staff for epidemic work. All possible steps should be taken to maintain the required standard in the number of vaccinations.

GENERAL.--Rao Bahadur Dr.R.M. Mathew continued as the Director of Public Health and the temporary post of Assistant Director of Public Health (Establishment) was abolished during the year. In spite of the persistence, during the year, of difficult living conditions and high prices, the public health of the Province was, on the whole satisfactory.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

C.O.Coorey,
Jt.Secy. to Government.

To the Director of Public Health.
The Surgeon-General(with a copy of the report)
" Public Department do.
"Director General of Health Services, India, New Delhi. do.
"Consul for the United States of America at Madras do.
Copy to the Director of Information & publicity do.
" " E.2 Section, Education & Public Health.
" " Mr.A.V.Raman, Editor of Peoples Health, Lloyd Cor Royapetta, Madras (with a copy of the report).

/True copy/

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

24/5/54.